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petrosus superficialis minor to the ganglion oticum and so to the lingualis, while the smaller part of the fibers passes from the tympanic plexus by a communicating branch to the geniculate ganglion of the facial, along this nerve to the chorda tympani and by the chorda to the lingualis. In Bruns' case the right temporal bone is probably fractured and the tympanic plexus can very well have been injured by this, thus well explaining part of the facts. The puzzling feature of the case is that the ageusia occurs on the back of the tongue as well, which is generally considered to be innervated directly by glosso-pharyngeal fibers and that there is no other evidence of glosso-pharyngeal injury. Bruns makes the suggestion that if the nervus intermedius is considered with Lussana and Vulpian to contain the nerves of taste for the back of the tongue, in addition to those for the other gustatory regions, as maintained by the above authors, this case may perhaps be explained, but he urges no hypothesis and presents these observations more as a contribution to the discussion than as decisive on any points.

Sur le nombre et le calibre du fibres nerveuses du nerf oculomoteur commun, chez le chat nouveau-né et chez le chat adulte. M. H. SCHILLER. Comptes Rendus. 30 September, 1889.

Under the direction of Forel, Schiller has made some interesting observations to test whether the nervous elements increased in number after birth. The test was made by counting with care the number of fibers in the cross-sections of the oculo-motor nerves of some new-born cats and comparing this number with that found in the cross-sections of the same nerve in the adult animal.

The average number of fibers, taken from 3 cats, new-born,	
gives,	2942
For 2 cats, 4 weeks old, (same litter,)	2961
For 1 cat, 6 weeks old,	3032
For 1 cat, 1 year old,	3046
For 1 cat, a year and a half old,	3035

The slight increase in the number of fibers for the older animals is fairly accounted for by the greater ease of counting the elements in the adult, for the diameter of the fibers in the new born lies between 1.5—2 μ ., while in the case of the oldest specimen—a year and a half old—it varies from 6—20 μ . The conclusion, as pointed out in a note by Forel, is to show plainly that cell multiplication in this nerve centre has stopped at the time of birth. The work is to be continued with the view to finding whether, as the present views demand, each nerve fiber is represented by a nerve cell.

Ueber die Histologie des Centralnervensystems. FROMMANN. Jahressitzung des Vereins der deutschen Irrenärzte. Jena, Juni, 1889. Abstracts of communications in Neurolog. Centralbl., No. 13, 1889, by Bruns.

First concerning the structure of the axis cylinder in nerve fibers. There are three views: Kupffer assumes continuous fibrillae running the entire length of the fiber; Joseph, a network with fibrillae passing between the meshes; Heltzmann, cross anastomoses which interrupt the direct tracts in the axis cylinder. From the study of invertebrates, Leydig supports the last view and explains the cross anastomoses as a supporting structure, which being interrupted cannot conduct. The conductive substance is the hyaloplasma, enclosed by this supporting substance. If this is true, how explain the conducting in the fine terminal branches of nerves where there is no hyaloplasma? Leydig describes in nerve cells, pale stripes and lines of hyaloplasma which conduct the nervous impulse from the cells. Frommann could not find these. He